

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BRASILIA PRIORITY

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 253192

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:PFOR, UNGA, BR, KS, KN

SUBJECT: UNGA - KOREA AND ZIONISM

1. UNDER SECRETARY SISCO INVITED BRAZILIAN AMBASSADOR CASTRO TO DEPARTMENT OCTOBER 23 AND BEGAN SUBSTANTIVE CONVERSATION BY STATING THAT HE WISHED TO DISCUSS TWO UNGA ISSUES, KOREA AND ZIONISM.

2. WITH REGARD TO KOREA, SISCO EMPHASIZED OUR DEEP APPRECIATION OF BRAZILIAN SUPPORT OF OUR RESOLUTION. HE STATED THAT WE SAW KOREAN ITEM AS MOST IMPORTANT UNGA ITEM TO US AND AS AN EAST-WEST ISSUE WHICH SHOULD BE SEEN IN THESE TERMS BY BRAZIL AND ON WHICH US AND BRAZIL SHOULD BE TOGETHER. HE STATED FRANKLY THAT THE US FOUND BRAZILIAN INTENTION OF ABSTAINING ON A PROCEDURAL MOTION TO DEPRIVE
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OUR RESOLUTION OF PRIORITY AS INCONSISTENT WITH BRAZIL'S

STATED SUPPORT OF OUR RESOLUTION. HE STRESSED THAT IF BRAZIL IS IN FAVOR OF OUR RESOLUTION, WE BELIEVE IT SHOULD SUPPORT US IN MAINTAINING ITS PRIORITY IN EVENT OF PROBABLE ALGERIAN ATTEMPT TO GAIN PRIORITY FOR HOSTILE ALGERIAN RESOLUTION. SISCO NOTED THAT IN CONTRAST WITH VIEW WE UNDERSTAND BRAZILIANS HOLD, ALGERIAN BID FOR PRIORITY WILL PROBABLY FAIL BY AEW VOTES AND WE NEED THE HELP OF OUR

SUPPORTERS TO ASSURE THAT. HE CONCLUDED BY STATING THAT WE WOULD LIKE BRAZIL TO RECONSIDER ITS PRESENT INTENTION TO ABSTAIN ON A PRIORITY VOTE IN VIEW OF KEY IMPORTANCE OF THIS PRIORITY VOTE TO SUCCESS OF OUR RESOLUTION AND TO DEFEAT OF ALGERIAN RESOLUTION ON WHICH WE WOULD ALSO WELCOME HELP.

3. AMBASSADOR CASTRO ASKED FOR CLARIFICATION AS TO WHY WE TERMED BRAZILIAN POSITION "INCONSISTENT," AND SISCO EXPLAINED THAT US RESOLUTION PRESENTLY HAD PRIORITY BECAUSE OF ITS EARLIER SUBMISSION AND THAT THOSE COUNTRIES WHICH SUPPORT OUR RESOLUTION ARE IN EVERY CASE WE KNOW OF EXCEPT FOR BRAZIL, ALSO PLANNING TO VOTE AGAINST ANY EFFORT TO DEPRIVE IT OF PRIORITY. THUS, A VOTE TO DEFEND OUR RESOLUTION'S PRESENT PRIORITY WOULD SEEM TO BE A LOGICAL COUNTERPART OF EXPRESSED SUPPORT FOR THAT RESOLUTION. CASTRO STATED HE WOULD CONVEY OUR VIEWS TO HIS GOVERNMENT.

4. TURNING TO ISSUE OF ZIONISM, SISCO NOTED SENSITIVITY OF THIS ISSUE AND UNDESIRABLE IMPACT OF CATAGORIZING ZIONISM AS A FORM OF RACISM. HE STATED HE HOPED IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE FOR BRAZIL TO VOTE AGAINST RESOLUTION ON THIS SUBJECT RECENTLY PASSED IN THIRD COMMITTEE WHEN IT COMES TO GENERAL ASSEMBLY PLENARY. CASTRO STATED THAT

IT SEEMED IMPLAUSIBLE TO HIM THAT RESOLUTION WHICH HAD BEEN ADOPTED 70 VOTES TO 29 COULD BE DEFEATED IN PLENARY. HE SAID HE HAD HEARD OF SOME INTENTIONS TO ATTACK THIS PROBLEM THROUGH A PROCEDURAL MOTION. IN REPLY, CASTRO WAS TOLD THAT THERE WERE SOME DELEGATIONS IN NEW YORK WHICH WERE EXAMINING POSSIBILITY OF SEEKING DETERMINATION

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THAT A DECISION TO LABEL ZIONISM AS A FORM OF RACISM SHOULD BE CONSIDERED AN IMPORTANT QUESTION AND THEREFORE ONE REQUIRING A DECISION SUPPORTED BY A TWO-THIRDS MAJORITY. AS SUCH A DETERMINATION COULD BE ACHIEVED, ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION COULD BE DEFEATED BY 36 NEGATIVE VOTES PROVIDED SUPPORT FOR RESOLUTION DID NOT INCREASE. THERE WAS BRIEF DISCUSSION OF LIKELY TIMING OF PLENARY VOTE ON ZIONISM AND CASTRO INDICATED HIS IMPRESSION WAS

THAT IT WOULD NOT COME UP UNTIL LATE IN NOVEMBER,
ALTHOUGH HE CONCEDED THAT BID BY SUPPORTERS OF RESOLUTION
COULD RESULT IN EARLIER SCHEDULING. SISCO REPEATED HIS
HOPE THAT BRAZIL WOULD RECONSIDER ITS VOTE IN COMMITTEE
BEFORE ISSUE COMES TO PLENARY.

5. IN CONNECTION WITH ZIONISM ISSUE, CASTRO NOTED
THAT THERE WERE PROPOSALS IN BOTH SENATE AND HOUSE FOR

RESOLUTIONS PERTAINING TO THIRD COMMITTEE RESOLUTION
ON ZIONISM AND ASKED STATUS OF THESE RESOLUTIONS. SISCO
REPLIED THAT THESE PROPOSALS, WHICH WERE NOT THE RESULT
OF ANY ADMINISTRATION INITIATIVE, WILL HAVE STRONG
SUPPORT AS THEY REFLECT A VIEW DEEPLY HELD IN THE US.

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